

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 28, 2023

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express serious concerns regarding your administration's recent contact with the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC).

On June 6, 2023, SPLC published a report titled, *Introduction: 2022 The Year in Hate and Extremism Comes to Main Street*. Among many things, this report smears parental rights groups that are concerned about the quality and content of their children's education. Parents have rightfully been concerned about draconian COVID-era policies that resulted in severe learning loss, school activities rooted in critical race theory, and curricula that are inappropriate for young children. SPLC takes specific aim at Moms for Liberty, a Florida-based group founded by mothers seeking to reassert the role of parents in their kids' education, calling them an "extremist group." SPLC's bad-faith designation of Moms for Liberty, as well as other parental rights groups, should come as no surprise, as SPLC is a corrupt and vicious tool of progressive radicals seeking to label individuals and groups with whom they disagree as hateful and/or extremist.

SPLC's designation also follows your administration's actions to target concerned parents for scrutinizing decisions from local education leaders. And indeed, there is reason to suspect your administration has been coordinating with SPLC on this matter. It was recently reported that Susan Corke, director of SPLC's Intelligence Project, met with National Security Council counterterrorism director John Picarelli earlier this year. This meeting raises serious questions as to whether the White House encouraged SPLC to work on behalf of the administration to label parental rights groups and organizations as "extremist groups."

Given these concerns, we demand answers to the following questions:

1. What was the purpose of Director Picarelli and Susan Corke's meeting?
2. During this meeting, did the White House, in any way, encourage, incentivize, or pressure SPLC to label parental rights groups and organizations as "extremist groups"?
3. Is the administration using SPLC to assist in the U.S. Department of Justice's targeting of parents?
4. Can the administration confirm that neither the White House, nor any federal agency, including the U.S. Department of Justice, is actively using taxpayer dollars to target parents?

5. Does the administration agree with SPLC that parental rights groups should be labeled “extremist groups”?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott
U.S. Senator



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Neal Dunn
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



Aaron Bean
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Anna Paulina Luna
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Gus Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress